United Nations A/C.3/65/L.19/Rev.1

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
29 October 2010

Original: English

Sixty-fifth session
Third Committee
Agenda item 28 (a)
Advancement of women

Angola, Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Eritrea, Gabon, Grenada, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Israel, Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Senegal, Sudan, Timor-Leste, Togo and United States of America: revised draft resolution

International Widows' Day

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, including the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[2] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[3] the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, and, in particular, the agreed conclusions from the forty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women endorsing the eradication of poverty through the empowerment of women throughout their life cycle and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[4] adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995,

Recalling also the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[5] in particular article 3, according to which parties shall take in all fields, in particular in the political, social, economic and cultural fields, all appropriate measures, including legislation, to ensure the full development and advancement of women,

Affirming that ensuring and promoting the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all women is critical to achieving all internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

[1] Resolution 55/2.
[2] Resolution 217 A (III).
[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.
[4] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.
[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

10-61193 (E) 021110

Please recycle

Emphasizing that the economic empowerment of women, including widows, is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing that all aspects of the lives of widowed women and their children are, in many parts of the world, negatively affected by various economic, social and cultural factors, including, inter alia, lack of access to inheritance, land tenure, employment and/or livelihood, social safety nets, health care and education,

Recognizing the link existing between the situation of widows and that of their children,

Deeply concerned that millions of widows' children face hunger, malnutrition, child labour, difficult access to health care, water, sanitation, loss of schooling, illiteracy and human trafficking,

Reaffirming that women, including widowed women, should be an integral part of the society in the State where they reside, and recalling the importance of positive steps on the part of Member States to that end,

Emphasizing the need to give special attention to the situation of widows and their children, including those living in rural areas,

1. *Decides* with effect from 2011 to observe International Widows' Day on 23 June each year;

2. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, to give special attention to the situation of widows and their children;

3. *Invites* all Member States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations, as well as civil society, to observe International Widows' Day and to raise awareness of the situation of widows and their children around the world;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take necessary measures, within existing resources, for the observance by the United Nations of that Day.